

PATIENT'S ROLE IN THE IMPLEMENTATION OF INFECTION PREVENTION AND CONTROL GUIDELINES: A SCOPING REVIEW

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BACKGROUND

The failure to implement and adhere to guidelines is one important issue faced in tackling infection prevention and control (IPC). Patient involvement in IPC, by partnering with healthcare professionals in the implementation of IPC guidelines, has been regarded as a strategy that can increase patient safety. Such professional-patient partnership for IPC requires clarity of roles. However, few studies have explored patient's role and mapped systematically the existing strategies to encourage patient involvement in the implementation of IPC guidelines.

OBJECTIVE

To explore the role of patients and their involvement in the implementation of IPC guidelines.

MATERIALS AND METHODS

A scoping review¹ was undertaken to identify recent publications (from 2013 to 2018) on patient involvement in the implementation of IPC guidelines.

RESULTS

From an identified 2078 papers, 14 papers were included in this review. Our findings provide insights into the need for a fundamental change to IPC, from being solely the healthcare professional's responsibility to one that involves a collaborative relationship between healthcare professionals and patients. Themes and respective subthemes were identified in the literature (Figure 2).

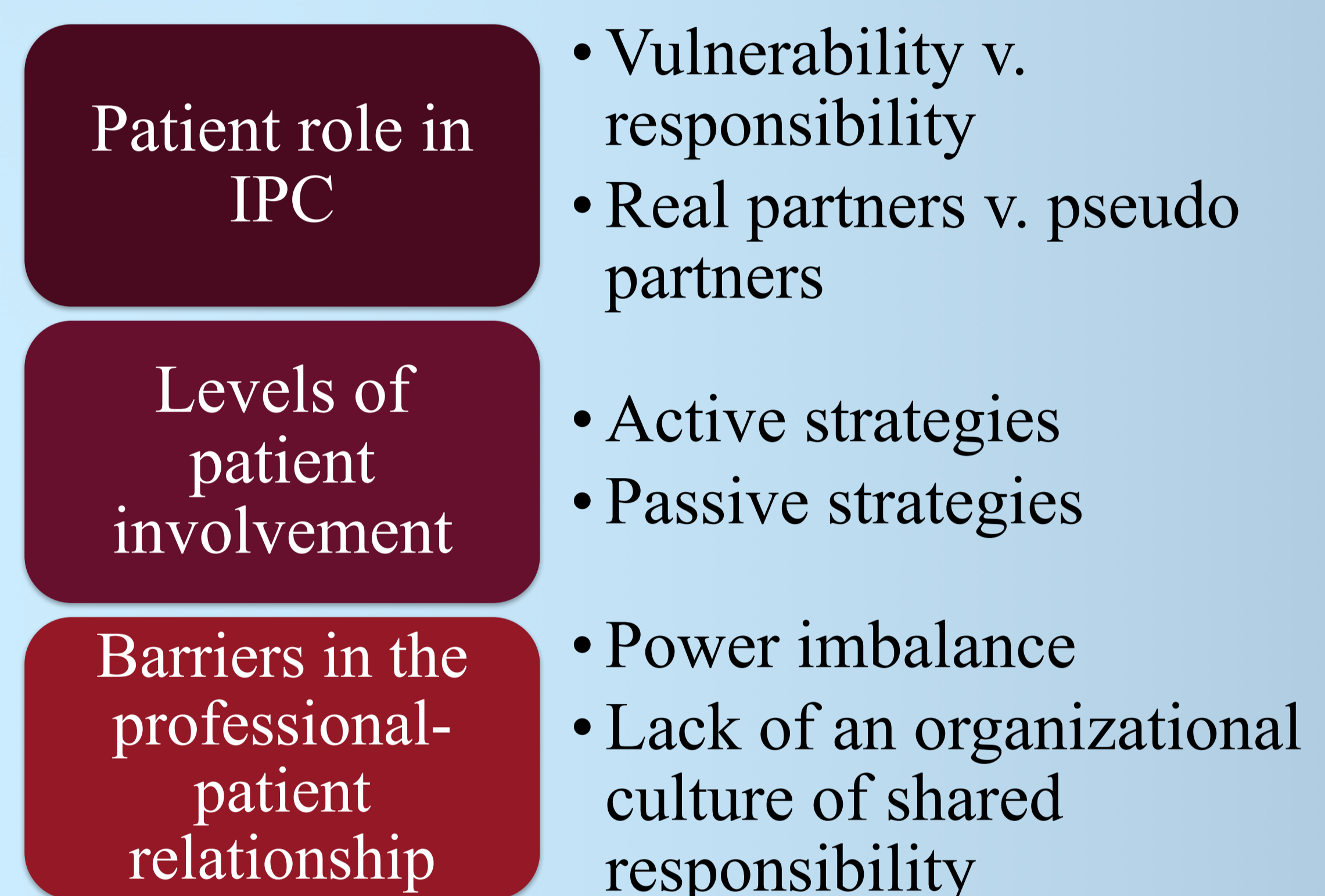


Figure 2. Themes and subthemes.

In general, patients are regarded as vulnerable but also responsible for preventing and transmitting infections; partners with professionals in the implementation of IPC guidelines but also outsiders of the “professional” process of preventing and controlling infections.

CONCLUSION

The findings of this review endorse the need for targeted strategies to overcome the lack of role clarity for patients in the implementation of IPC guidelines.

REFERENCE

1. Peters M, Godfrey C, McInerney P, Soares C, Khalil H, Parker D. The Joanna Briggs Institute reviewers' manual 2015: methodology for JBI scoping reviews. 2015.

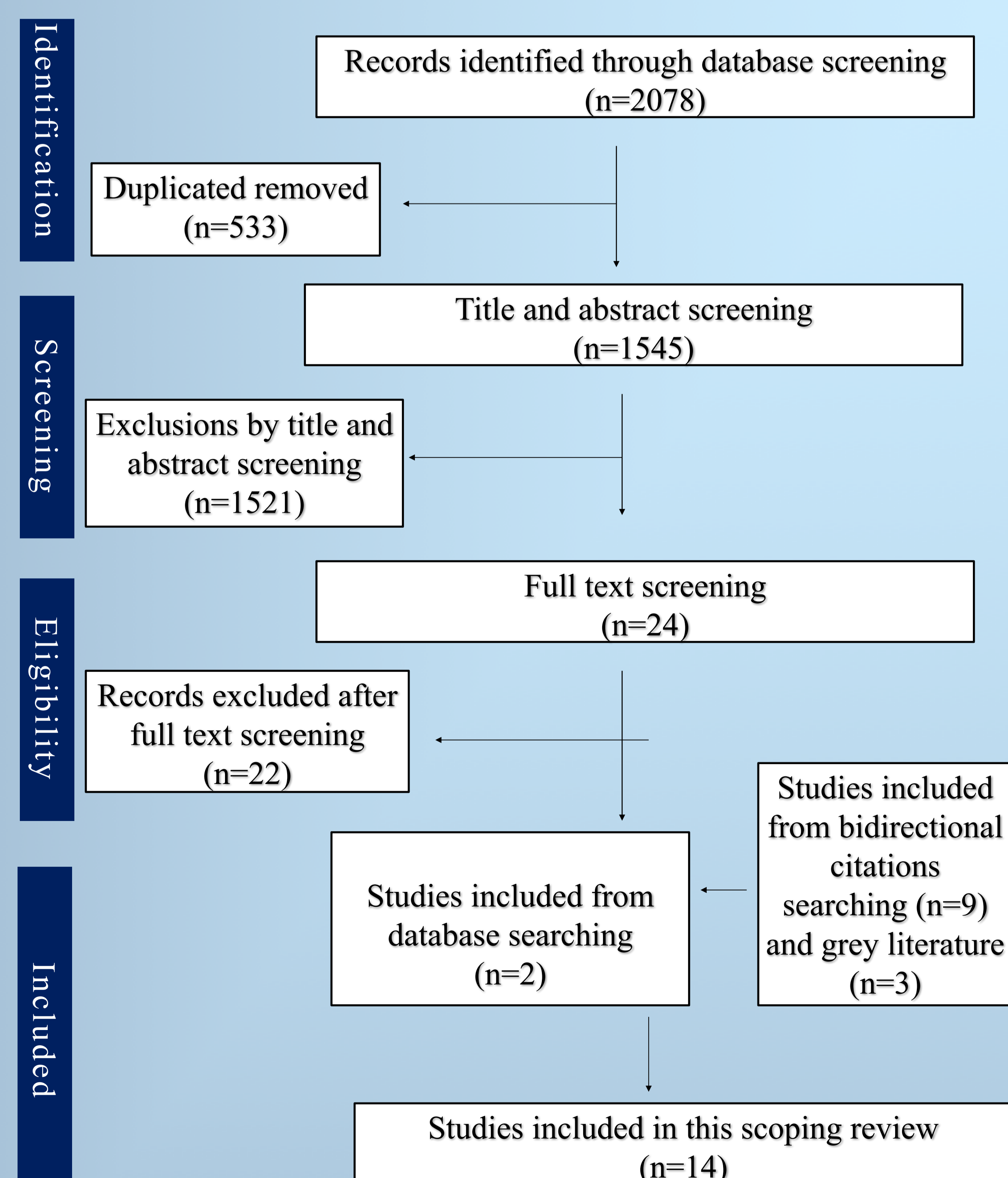


Figure 1. Prisma flow diagram